United Nations A/HRC/39/L.8

General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
21 September 2018

Original: English

Human Rights Council
Thirty-ninth session
10–28 September 2018
Agenda item 3
Promotion and protection of all human rights, civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development

Algeria,* Australia, Bahrain,* Bolivia (Plurinational State of),* Bulgaria,* Canada,* Chile, Croatia, Denmark,* Ecuador, Egypt, France,* Greece,* Haiti, Honduras,* Hungary, Ireland,* Italy,* Malta,* Paraguay,* Peru, Poland,* Portugal,* Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova,* Romania,* Saudi Arabia, Spain, Thailand,* Tunisia, United Arab Emirates: draft resolution

39/... Local government and human rights

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Recalling also Human Rights Council resolutions 24/2 of 26 September 2013, 27/4 of 25 September 2014 and 33/8 of 29 September 2016 on the role of local government in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Recalling further General Assembly resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015 on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in which the Assembly adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, and its commitments to working tirelessly for full implementation of the Agenda by 2030 at all levels,

Underscoring the significant contribution that local government can make to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and their targets,

Bearing in mind that the Sustainable Development Goals are integrated and indivisible, balance the three dimensions of sustainable development — economic, social and environmental — and are aimed at realizing the human rights of all and at achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls,

Bearing in mind also that human rights and fundamental freedoms are the birthright of all human beings, and that their protection and promotion is the first responsibility of Governments,

* State not a member of the Human Rights Council.

Recognizing the role of local government in the promotion and protection of human rights, without any prejudice to the primary responsibility of the national Government in this regard,

Recognizing also that local government has different forms and functions in every State, in accordance with the constitutional and legal system of the State concerned,

Recognizing further that, given its proximity to people and being at the grass-roots level, one of the important functions of local government is to provide public services that address local needs and priorities related to the realization of human rights at the local level,

Underlining that the promotion of a human rights culture within public services, and public servants' knowledge, training and awareness, play a vital role in promoting respect for and the realization of human rights in society, and stressing the importance in this regard of human rights education and training for public servants at the local government level,

Underlining also that the expertise and knowledge of local government officials is an important asset in the provision of public services and the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms at the local government level, and in the implementation of the pledge in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind,

Recognizing that, despite improvements in several countries, in some instances local stakeholders can face challenges in participating in local government programmes,

Noting relevant international and regional initiatives to promote human rights at the local level, and the role of local governments in the implementation of such initiatives,

Reaffirming the crucial role that the national Government can play in promoting a positive contribution by local government to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda with regard to the promotion and protection of human rights,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the summary report on the intersessional panel on the role of local government in the promotion and protection of human rights;[1]

2. *Encourages* the interaction and exchange of knowledge between local government and local stakeholders, including, inter alia, local civil society, in the formulation and implementation of local government programmes, with the aim of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals through the promotion of a human rights culture within public services;

3. *Also encourages* local governments to ensure the participation of local stakeholders in local government activities and in public affairs, in efforts to promote and protect human rights at the local level;

4. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a report, in consultation with all States and relevant intergovernmental organizations, United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, relevant special procedures of the Human Rights Council, the Advisory Committee, treaty bodies, national human rights institutions, civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and local governments, on effective methods to foster cooperation between local government and local stakeholders for the effective promotion and protection of human rights at their level through local government programmes, including raising awareness of the Sustainable Development Goals, and to indicate the major challenges and best practices in this regard, and to submit the report to the Council prior to its forty-second session;

5. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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[1] A/HRC/38/22.